

# Information Assurance Month begins

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — Pacific Air Forces information assurance office has the lead for the Air Force Communications Agency’s Information Assurance Awareness Campaign (IAAC) for November 2001.

The campaign is a year-long program that stresses the importance of information assurance. Each month a different MAJCOM takes the lead and provides information on a different facet of information assurance.

PACAF’s theme for the month is

“E-mail.” PACAF Command IA has provided articles, briefings, information slides, E-mail tips, videos and information assurance links to each MAJCOM information assurance office throughout the Air Force to educate and reinforce user knowledge on E-mail policy facets, procedures, protective measures and use.

The information is posted on the PACAF Command IA Web page at <https://www.hqpacaf.af.mil/sc/scn/SCNI/IAAC/>. PACAF officials especially want to challenge Air Force members to participate in the

November information assurance contest.

According to Maj. Don Hamelin, the HQ PACAF point of contact, the contest is designed to test familiarization with E-mail information assurance principles.

The contest is open to active-duty military, civilian and contractor personnel. All correct entries will be posted on the web site. The site can only be accessed from a computer connected to the Air Force domain.

A complete list of contest rules is also located on the web page.

## Chief-selects

Eleven senior master sergeants from Elmendorf will be promoted to the Air Force’s highest enlisted rank next year. The selectees will sew on their new stripes throughout 2002.

More than 22 percent of eligible senior master sergeants were selected for promotion. This percentage is almost an eight point increase from the last cycle, and the highest rate of chief master sergeant selects since 1986.

Elmendorf selectees:

- Ralph Brock, Jr., 381st Intelligence Squadron
- Robin Callaway, 90th Fighter Squadron
- Dan Elfring, 3rd Dental Squadron
- Owen Davies, 3rd Services Squadron
- Donald Knauber, 12th Fighter Squadron
- Sherrill Lewis, 3rd Transportation Squadron
- Randolph Messineo, 12th Fighter Squadron
- Angelo Ortiz, 3rd Communications Squadron
- Kenneth Rivers, 611th Civil Engineer Squadron
- John Sims, Jr., 3rd Operations Group
- Craig Vonholdt, 3rd Wing

# Anthrax threat suspends mail programs

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Military postal officials have reluctantly ended the “Operation Dear Abby” and “Any Service Member” postal programs due to the anthrax threat.

Alan F. Estevez, acting assistant deputy undersecretary of defense for transportation policy, suspended the programs in a signed Oct. 30 memorandum to the Military Postal Service

Agency. Effective immediately, mail will no longer be accepted for these anonymous-sender programs.

The Dear Abby program, founded by the newspaper advice columnist, has delivered mail to U.S. service members overseas during the holiday season for 17 years. “Any Service Member” mail grew out of Desert Shield and Desert Storm, but really cranked up during the U.S. assistance to Bosnia in 1995, officials said.

Both programs let U.S. service

members overseas know that fellow Americans support them and appreciate their sacrifices.

A written notice from the Military Postal Service Agency said the most critical issue surrounding these mail programs is personnel safety. “Both of these programs create an avenue to introduce mail into the system from unknown sources,” the notice said. “The recent mail-related attacks have demonstrated the vulnerability of the postal system.”

## Force Protection tip

Antiterrorism and force protection plans must be classified Confidential at a minimum. Vulnerabilities that could be exploited must be classified Secret at a minimum. When discussing or transmitting classified or sensitive information, use a STU-III or classified network computer. When in doubt as to whether something should be discussed over unsecure phones or networks, use a secure means.

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# Community Center fun

*Indoor, outdoor activities keep patrons busy*

By Mary M. Rall  
3rd Services Marketing

Whoever said it's possible to get too much of a good thing hasn't checked the Community Center. The facility has made a good thing better by adding a free tennis ball pitching machine and a new Ballooney Bin specialty balloon service.

Venus Williams will have nothing on your backhand after you make the most of the tennis ball pitching machine. Capable of holding 150 balls, the machine lobs them across the net for you to improve your game with a partner who never tires.

While people on the court are getting a physical workout, Ballooney Bin visitors can exercise their loved ones' heart-strings. The specialty balloon service features five standard bouquets you can select from, or you can create your own bouquet by choosing from 30 varieties of Mylar and latex balloons. If you really want to make someone's heart float, you can purchase a unique stuffed balloon.

Individuals wanting to get a little height without resorting to helium can scale the facility's 24-foot tower-style climbing wall. The wall features three sides of varying terrain and difficulty, so climbers of all ages and skill levels can challenge themselves. The wall has a self-belaying system that connects to each climber's safety harness, so if climbers misplace a hand or toe, they



COURTESY PHOTO

## Rock Boy

**Staff Sgt. Jason Robertson, 3rd Communications Squadron, gives the Community Center's rock climbing wall his best effort. The center also offers a batting cage, a tennis ball pitching machine and a basketball court.**

are safely lowered to the ground, ensuring a workout as safe as it is challenging.

Those who choose to enjoy more grounded types of amusement can bypass the climbing wall and take a crack at the center's batting cage.

The center also offers an indoor skateboard park, basketball court, treadmills, stair steppers, weight equipment, table tennis, foosball and bumper pool tables.

With so much to choose

from, it's hard to believe the center could make the prospect of spending time there any sweeter. They manage to do just that, though, because everything offered at the Community Center is free.

With incentive like that, no sane person could pass up the Community Center's offerings.

For more information or to sign up for any Community Center activities, call 552-2674.

▶ inside the fence

▶ **Russian Egg Brush Work**, today from 7-9 p.m. for \$25 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Basic Sign II**, Saturday from 4-6 p.m. for \$30 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Kids' Ceramic Turkey**, Saturday from 1-3 p.m. for \$10 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Homeschooler Crafts**, Monday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Parent Advisory Committee Meeting**, Tuesday at 5 p.m. at the Denali CDC. **552-8304**

▶ **Parent Conferences**, Tuesday through Nov. 16 at the

Denali and Katmai CDCs.

**552-5113**

▶ **FCC Orientation and Training**, Tuesday through Nov. 19 at the FCC Training Room. **552-3995**

▶ **Wilton Cake Decorating III**, Wednesday from 6:45-8:45 p.m. for \$35 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Grapevine Vase**, Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. for \$35 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Canned Food Drive Bowling**, receive up to three free games for canned foods at the Polar Bowl Wednesday. **552-4108**

▶ **Snack Bar Special**, Thursday, featuring cheese-

burgers, chips, and soda for \$3 at the Youth Center. **552-2266**

▶ **Holiday Card Making**, Thursday from 6-8 p.m. for \$20 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Large Nativity Camel**, Thursday from 6-9 p.m. for \$25 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Turkey Shoot Racquetball Tournament**, Thursday through Nov. 18 at the Fitness Center. **552-5353**

▶ **Harvest Platter**, Nov. 16 from 7-9 p.m. at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **Basic Automotive Servicing**, Nov. 16 and 30 at 6 p.m. at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

▶ **XTREME WEEK-END**: Get your weekend rolling with two hours of Xtreme Bowling and shoe rental for \$12 per person from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Purchase the Xtreme Punch Card and get five Xtreme sessions for \$50. Start times may vary according to scheduled leagues. **552-4108**

▶ **MOVIE: Hardball (PG-13)**. Keanu Reeves is a compulsive gambler who pays his debt by coaching an inner-city Little League baseball team. 7 p.m.

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▶ **SHINING STARS**: Make a night of it by stopping by the Kashim Club's Ballroom for the Family and Teen Talent Contest at 6 p.m. Some of the finest performers on the base will take to the stage to compete for a chance to go on to Air Force level and the possibility of performing with Tops in Blue when they visit the base. Interested participants can sign up at the Community Center, School Age Programs, and the Youth Center. **552-2674**

▶ **MOVIE: Hardball (PG-13)**. See Friday. 7 p.m.

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▶ **PARTY HEARTY**: Fill the long holiday weekend with a party atmosphere by spending it at the Kashim Club as R.C. and T-Bone start spinning the hits at 8:30 p.m. The doors open at 6 p.m., so come early and get a good seat. **753-6131**

▶ **MOVIE: Two Can Play That Game (R)**. Vivica A. Fox can take care of everyone's "man troubles" but her own. 7 p.m.

▶ fyi

▶ **CONNECTED**: Log on to the Services site at [www.elmendorfservices.com](http://www.elmendorfservices.com) and search through the links to find a hidden animated \$50 bill and specially marked bonus prizes throughout the month. The first person to find the dancing \$50 bill will win \$50 in cold hard cash, and those who find the bonus prizes can win anything from ski passes to bowling certificates. Winning dates will vary monthly, so log on to the site often.

# Sports News

## Kayaking Alaska’s fiords

By **Thomas Prochazka**  
11th Operational Weather Squadron

I had just come back from a float trip down the Little Susitna when I unpacked, washed, repacked and flew to a remote cabin on Coghill Lake in Prince William Sound.

We arrived at the cabin by 10 a.m., inflated the kayak and cruised around the lagoon and lake. The clouds cleared to expose a bright blue sky, and we saw black bears, seals, eagles and mountains with hanging glaciers — breathtaking!

For the next two days, we kayaked College Fiord in Prince William Sound. The weather was perfect for paddling more than 15 miles up the fiord.

We saw more icebergs as we got closer to the glacier; soon we were going through an iceberg obstacle course. There were otters and seals on many of the bergs, and we set up a tent on a small island within three-fourths of a mile from the glacier. The glacier creaked and rumbled like thunder all night as chunks of ice calved into the water.

The next day we awoke to perfect



COURTESY PHOTO

**Thomas Prochazka kayaks College Fiord in Prince William Sound.**

weather again, and the trip out was as great as the trip in. At our last rest-stop, we drank fresh water from a small, stair-stepped stream and ate blueberries by the handful. This gave us energy for the toughest part of the kayak trip — the three-and-a-half miles upstream to the cabin.

The next day was rainy — perfect for fishing! The weather was questionable for flying, and we were in no hurry, so we stayed an extra day.

The flight back was incredible!

The pilot said, “No clouds, no turbulence — let’s take the scenic route.” We flew within 50 feet of mountaintops and glaciers. We saw some of the places we’d hiked from a different perspective, and flew up Harriman Fiord, the next fiord I plan to kayak. It was an excellent way to end a memorable trip.

*If you have an Alaskan adventure you’d like to share, call the Sourdough Sentinel staff at 552-2493.*

# Sports Shorts

## Turkey shoot

The 10th Annual Turkey Shoot Racquetball Tournament is Thursday through Nov. 18. For information, call 552-5353.

## Fun run

The Fitness Center’s Frost-bite Classic Fun Run and Walk is Nov. 17 at noon. A free T-shirt will be given to the first 30 people who sign up. Call 552-5353 for information.

## Spinning classes

The Fitness Center offers spinning classes every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., and every Saturday at 11 a.m. Call 552-5353 to sign up.

## Ski Clinic

Outdoor Recreation hosts a Cross Country Ski Clinic Nov. 28. To sign up, call 552-2023.

## Personal trainer

The fitness center has a trainer available for personalized workout programs. Call 552-5353 for an appointment.